

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/840,455

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 6-11 are all the claims pending in the application.

In reply to the Response filed on March 17, 2004, the Examiner removed the previous rejection. The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 3 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over previously-cited Chernock et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,542) in view of previously-cited Blonstein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,955,988) and newly-cited Ohyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,751,373). Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Chernock, Blonstein, and Ohyama as applied to claim 3, and further in view of previously-cited Inoue (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,896).

Ohyama is directed to a television function selection method, using a television receiver and a remote commander for the television receiver.

Applicant submits that claims 3 and 6-11 are patentable over the prior art, at least because there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the references. Specifically, the Examiner states that the motivation to combine the teachings of Blonstein with the teachings of Chernock is that the implementation of cursor movement transmitting only the cursor display information would provide the user with a visual feedback. Chernock discloses a method for moving a cursor across a screen using single key strokes. Since the cursor moves along the screen with every time the user pushes a key, visual feedback is accomplished by the Chernock disclosure. Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art, who is practicing Chernock, would not look to the Blonstein reference to obtain a method of visual feedback, since one would already be disclosed in Chernock. Stated differently, there is no motivation to change one method of

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visual feedback with another. Thus, there is no motivation to modify Chernock to add the feature from Blonstein, since Chernock already discloses the feature.

Therefore, claims 3 and 6-11 are allowable over the prior art, for at least this reason.

Further, there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the teachings of Ohyama with those of Chernock and Blonstein. Namely, the Examiner concedes that Chernock discloses the use of a storage device. The Examiner also states that the motivation to combine references stems from the user's desire to be able to read out the position of the cursor from the cursor position control register. One of ordinary skill in the art wishing to practice Chernock would simply use the Chernock storage device, which already places the cursor in a particular position, around the highest priority hotspot or above the video to indicate hotspots, and would have no motivation to modify Chernock to include the feature from Ohyama. See Chernock, column 5 lines 23-26 and column 4 lines 54-56. The cursor position can be read out by Chernock, because the system places the cursor in particular places upon the screen. Additionally, the Blonstein disclosure does not recite that the storage devices in Blonstein read out the position of the cursor. Thus, it would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art to make the storage device a register, since there is no motivation to do so. The Examiner has provided no reason to combine the teachings of Chernock and Blonstein with the teachings of Ohyama. Therefore, claims 3 and 6-11 are patentable over the prior art for this additional reason.

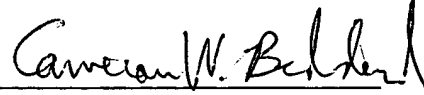
Finally, with regard to the rejection of claim 6, Applicant submits that Inoue does not cure the deficient teachings of Chernock, Blonstein, and Ohyama with regard to claim 3. Thus, no independent argument need be made.

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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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